

From John Alexander Mebane

UNC

Greensborough,

October 9th., 1862.

Mr. James Morehead informed me that he stayed a night at your house while in Hillsborough, and that you wanted to know if I had heard from Charles Graham & family. The first intelligence we have had since the troubles began, was from letters received last Tuesday, which were mailed at Holly Springs the 18th. of last month. One from my daughter, Mary E.,¹¹⁰ one from Celia,¹¹¹ and one from James,¹¹² all sent to Holly Springs by a neighbor, who had been on a visit home from the Army. I am sorry that I can't give you a copy of the letter from my daughter Mary, but will extract a part. "The Yankees remained camped at Wittsburgh and Madison three weeks, & made free use of every thing they could find, took from Husband 17 loads of Corn, & five of hay, five grown boys and Amanda, one of the boys has come home since the fight, and Amanda has returned home, three of the boys with the Gen'l have come back, so far all of our old Negroes have been faithfull, and will have to be driven if they go. They took 17 of Mr. Allen, he says he has been damage at least 60,000. One girl was persuaded off by her husband, of my son James'. None of Thomas or his father in law run off. They helped themselves to all Charley Brown's hams, they passed his Gate and camped at the Creek a Mile from the house. A part of Mr. Allen's were retaken by the Rangers, carried to Little Rock, he went after & brought 5 of them back, sold at a high price. Some of the men who influenced the young ones to leave, Several Negroes of Mr. Jones has gone off.

¹¹⁰ Mary Eliza Mebane (1822-1894), of Greensboro, who married Charles Connor Graham (1819-1886) in 1846. He was the nephew of William A. Graham. They lived in Memphis, Tennessee. Clark, "Graham Descendants."

¹¹¹ Presumably Celia Sutton Mebane, wife of the letter writer. Clark, "Graham Descendants."

¹¹² Presumably Mebane's grandson James Franklin Graham (1850-1915). Clark, "Graham Descendants."